

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10
ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /106 W
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O 222344Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0204
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECOSOC, EGEN, UN
SUBJECT PREPARATIONS FOR MAY MEETING OF UN OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

1. SUMMARY: WEO'S CONVENED AS VINCI GROUP AT CANADIAN MISSION MARCH 22, HEARD REPORT BY ULRICHSEN OF DENMARK ON MEETING OF BUREAU OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE WHICH TOOK PLACE MARCH 21. GROUP ALSO HAD FURTHER DISCUSSION OF PREPARATIONS FOR MAY MEETING IN LIGHT OF G-77 SUGGESTIONS FOR THE AGENDA OF THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT MARCH 21. (TEXT DATAFAXED IO AND E/B).
END SUMMARY.

2. THE BUREAU WAS INFORMED THAT THE SECRETARIAT HAD RECEIVED SUGGESTIONS ON SUB-ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED UNDER AGENDA ITEM 2 - TRANSFER OF RESOURCES - FROM THE G-77, JA-
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PAN, SWEDEN, US AND TURKEY. THESE WOULD BE CIRCULATED BY THE SECRETARIAT AT THE END OF THIS WEEK.

3. AS REGARDS PREPARATION OF BACKGROUND PAPERS BY THE SECRETARIAT, RESPONSIBILITY FOR AGENDA ITEM 1 HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ESA, FOR AGENDA ITEM 2 TO UNCTAD AND FOR AGENDA ITEM 3 TO UNCTAD/FAO/IMF. DRAFT SECRETARIAT PAPERS WOULD

BE SUBMITTED FOR INTER-SECRETARIAT REVIEW ON MARCH 30/31.
THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BACKGROUND PAPERS IN
FINAL FORM IS APRIL 4.

4. ULRICKSEN REPORTED THAT JAZAIRI FELT THE DISCUSSION
AT THE MAY MEETING SHOULD BE FOCUSSED ESPECIALLY ON ITEM 2.
AS REGARDS HANDLING OF THE ITEM, THE BUREAU FELT IT WOULD
BE DIFFICULT TO CONSOLIDATE THE VARIOUS SUB-ITEMS WHICH
HAD THUS FAR BEEN SUGGESTED, THAT IT WOULD NOT BE FEAS-
IBLE FOR THE BUREAU TO ATTEMPT THIS TASK AND THAT THE JOB
OF SORTING OUT THE AGENDA IN LIGHT OF THE PROPOSALS FROM
MEMBER COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE THROUGH INFORMAL
INTER-GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

5. JAZAIRI INDICATED THAT THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE WOULD
PROBABLY RECEIVE A REPORT UNDER ITEM 4(A) ON THE STATUS OF
NEGOTIATIONS ON THE NEW UNIDO CONSTITUTION (NOT
CLEAR WHO WOULD MAKE THE REPORT), AND HE SUGGESTED THAT
THE COMMITTEE MIGHT TAKE NOTE OF THE STATE-OF-PLAY ON THIS
SUBJECT AND MAKE SOME APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATION CONCERN-
ING FURTHER ACTION.

6. JAZAIRI ENVISAGED TWO-PART MAY MEETING: THE FIRST
WOULD CONSIST OF A "PREPARATORY PHASE" CONCERNED WITH
"DEFINING PROBLEMS AND NARROWING DOWN DIFFERENCES"; THE
SECOND COVERING MAY 10, 11 AND 12 WOULD BE THE "MINISTER-
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IAL" PART OF THE MEETING AND WOULD ENDEAVOR TO RECONCILE
DIFFERENCES OF VIEW AND "COME CLOSER TO SOLUTIONS".
JAZAIRI SUGGESTED THAT MEMBER COUNTRIES BE URGED TO MAKE
KNOWN THEIR THINKING CONCERNING MINISTERIAL-LEVEL
REPRESENTATION. (A GO-AROUND IN THE VINCI GROUP PRODUCED
LITTLE HARD INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT, WITH ONLY
AUSTRIA, CANADA, THE UK AND SWEDEN INDICATING INTENTIONS
TO BE REPRESENTED AT SUCH LEVEL. US STATED THAT QUESTION
OF COOPER'S ATTENDANCE STILL OPEN).

7. AS REGARDS REPORTING TO THE GA ON THE MEETINGS OF THE
OVERVIEW COMMITTEE, JAZAIRI SUGGESTED A COMBINED REPORT
COVERING MAY AND JUNE SESSIONS. POSSIBILITY OF PRODUCING
A SINGLE REPORT COVERING MAY, JUNE AND SEPTEMBER MEET-
INGS WAS ALSO DISCUSSED.

8. JAZAIRI HAS LEFT NEW YORK AND PLANS RETURN APRIL 27.
NEXT BUREAU MEETING MAY 2.

9. FOLLOWING ULRICKSEN'S REPORT, GROUP SPENT CONSIDERABLE
TIME RUMINATING ON QUESTION OF HOW TO TREAT THE G-77 LIST
AND HOW TO ARRIVE AT A COMMON LIST OF SUB-ITEMS

FOR AGENDA ITEM 2 PRIOR TO OPENING OF MAY MEETING. UL-
RICKSEN CALLED ATTENTION TO FACT THAT G-77 DESCRIBED THEIR
SUBMISSION AS AN "INDICATIVE LIST" AND SPECULATED THAT
IT WAS SUBJECT TO CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION. FEDREP ARGUED
THE DANGER OF ACCEPTING FOR DISCUSSION IN OVERVIEW COMMIT-
TEE THE SUB-ITEMS LISTED UNDER POINT 5 OF THE G-77 TEXT
"INTERNATIONAL MONETARY QUESTIONS" SINCE THESE ADDRESSED

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LARGELY MATTERS WHICH SHOULD BE TREATED IN THE IMF. GEN-
ERAL FEELING WAS THAT WESTERN GROUP WOULD HAVE TO PREPARE
ITSELF FOR SERIES OF INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH G-77 MIS-
SIONS LOOKING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF A "COMMON LIST" OF SUB-
ITEMS FOR ITEM 2. NETHERLANDS FELT SUCH LIST SHOULD RE-
FLECT "WHAT WAS IMPORTANT AND NEGOTIABLE" IN RESPECT OF
TRANSFER OF RESOURCES. CANADIANS OPINED THAT EFFORT TO
NEGOTIATE COMMON LIST WOULD QUICKLY GET INTO THE BASIC
QUESTION OF "WHAT THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE WAS ALL ABOUT".
LEONARD

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